

Message Text

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PAGE 01 IAEA V 02208 141150Z

43

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 FEAE-00 PM-03 /050 W

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R 140851Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5595
INFO AEC GERMANTOWN
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 2208

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM CO

SUBJ: COLOMBIA AND NPT

1. DURING COURSE OF HOUR LONG COURTESY CALL, NEWLY ARRIVED COLOMBIAN RESREP, DR. GUILLERMO OTALORA, EXPRESSED TO US RESREP HIS DISMAY THAT SINCE COLOMBIA HAD NOT YET RATIFIED THE NPT IT COULD NOT REALISTICALLY EXPECT TO BE A RECIPIENT OF THE ANNUAL US GIFT OF SNM OR OF US GIFTS-IN-KIND.

2. ASKED ABOUT REASONS BEHIND LONG DELAY IN RATIFICATION SINCE COLOMBIA SIGNED THE TREATY (NEARLY SEVEN YEARS), OTALORA SAID IN CONFIDENCE THAT IN HIS VIEW INERTIA AND OTHER NATIONAL PRIORITIES IMPEDED HIGH-LEVEL CONSIDERATION OF NPT; THERE WAS NO SERIOUS POLITICAL PROBLEM INVOLVED. BEFORE LEAVING BOGOTA, HE SAID, HE HAD URGED PRESIDENT LOPEZ TO TURN HIS ATTENTION TO SUBJECT, BUT HAD RECEIVED NON-COMMITTAL RESPONSE. OTALORA OBSERVED THAT ALL COLOMBIA NEEDED WAS GENTLE PUSH FROM OUTSIDE TO FOCUS ITS ATTENTION ON RATIFICATION AND SUGGESTED, AGAIN IN CONFIDENCE, THAT ANTICIPATED MID-1975 VISIT OF LOPEZ TO WASHINGTON WOULD PRESENT US WITH IDEAL OPPORTUNITY FOR PROVIDING THAT PUSH.

3. COMMENT: OTALORA IS FLUENT IN ENGLISH, HAVING SPENT
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PAGE 02 IAEA V 02208 141150Z

ABOUT 17 YEARS AT PRINCETON. HE STATES THAT HE IS GOOD

PERSONAL FRIEND OF LOPEZ. END COMMENT LABOWITZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY RATIFICATION, NPT, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975IAEAV02208
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750090-0068
From: IAEA VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750351/aaaabtgy.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <07 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COLOMBIA AND NPT
TAGS: PARM, CO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006